



ERIE COUNTY

Note: new application fee

PROMOTIONAL EXAM

Please refer to our internet address at: www.erie.gov

**A NON-REFUNDABLE \$20.00 PROCESSING FEE MUST ACCOMPANY EACH APPLICATION
(CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY – PAYABLE TO: ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL)**

**SENIOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR
NO. 79-413**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING
TOWN OF AMHERST**

**\$33,919 – \$44,581
\$20.40 - \$24.93 PER HOUR**

NOTICE: Erie County no longer maintains a file of applicant transcripts. Exam applicants must be prepared to provide documentation of educational qualifications (transcript, diploma, etc.) to the hiring agency prior to appointment. Documentation may also be submitted with the exam application.

THIS EXAMINATION IS OPEN TO ALL QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING AND THE TOWN OF AMHERST. Successful candidates will be eligible for appointment only in the jurisdiction in which they were employed at the time of the written test. At present there are four vacancies in the Department of Environment and Planning. The eligible list resulting from this examination will be used to fill future vacancies in the Town of Amherst.

The eligible list resulting from this examination will not supersede currently existing promotional eligible lists for this title, if any. The duration of all promotional eligible lists is four years from date of establishment unless otherwise indicated.

<u>QUALIFYING EXPERIENCE FOR TAKING THE TEST FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING</u>	<u>QUALIFYING EXPERIENCE FOR TAKING THE TEST FOR THE TOWN OF AMHERST:</u>
Candidates must be permanently employed in the competitive class and must be serving and have served continuously on a permanent or contingent permanent basis in the competitive class for 24 months immediately preceding the date of the written test as a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator II.	Candidates must be permanently employed in the competitive class and must be serving and have served continuously on a permanent or contingent permanent basis in the competitive class for 24 months immediately preceding the date of the written test as a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator
Possession of a Grade IIIA Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certificate, issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, is required at the time of appointment.	

Persons who are currently employed under Section 55a, New York State Civil Service Law, and who meet all the above eligibility requirements in the non-competitive rather than competitive class may compete in this examination.

DUTIES: A *Senior Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator* supervises and performs operational duties of a wastewater treatment plant; seeks methods to assure the most efficient and economical use of equipment, supplies and manpower; supervises and performs minor repairs to machinery and equipment; supervises and performs treatment and disposal of sludge; adds chlorine and other chemicals to wastewater; records readings from meters and gauges; supervises and performs a plan of preventative maintenance on electrical and mechanical equipment; supervises and performs sampling and testing of wastewater for permit requirements and process control and adjustment as required; maintains a log of plant operations and related records; prepares periodic reports; supervises and performs custodial duties in connection with maintenance of buildings and grounds; investigates difficulties with sewers and house connections.

**VETERANS: PROOF OF SERVICE MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE LIST IS ESTABLISHED
TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL POINTS. (See application for more information.)**

NOTICES TO APPEAR FOR THE EXAMINATION ARE MAILED APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE EXAMINATION DATE

EXAMINATION DATE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2006

**SEE REVERSE
SIDE**

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE
POSTMARKED BY**

AUGUST 16, 2006

SCOPE OF EXAMINATION: The written test is designed to test for knowledge, skills, and/or abilities in such areas as:

1. **SUPERVISION** - These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices employed in planning, organizing, and controlling the activities of a work unit toward predetermined objectives. The concepts covered, usually in a situational question format, include such topics as assigning and reviewing work; evaluating performance; maintaining work standards; motivating and developing subordinates; implementing procedural change; increasing efficiency; and dealing with problems of absenteeism, morale, and discipline.
2. **OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF PUMPS, VALVES, AND RELATED MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT** - These questions test for knowledge of the principles and procedures involved in the operation, maintenance, and repair of pumps, valves, and related mechanical and electrical equipment, including motors and electric circuitry; and for the ability to identify various types of pumps, valves, and related equipment and understand their functions.
3. **PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY, AND BACTERIOLOGY RELATED TO WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL, INCLUDING LABORATORY AND FIELD TESTS FOR PLANT OPERATIONS** - These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices of wastewater treatment, disposal, and testing, including such areas as the principles of physics, chemistry, and bacteriology involved; terminology associated with wastewater treatment and testing; operating principles of the equipment and procedures used in wastewater treatment; measurements and measuring devices used; sampling and testing wastewater and interpreting the results; and identification and characteristics of chemicals and bacteria involved in wastewater plant operations and testing. Some questions may involve basic arithmetic calculations.
4. **PRACTICES AND EQUIPMENT USED IN THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A TYPE A WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT** - These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices associated with the operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment plants employing the activated sludge process or its modifications (Type A plants), including such areas as objectives of plant processes, techniques, and equipment; terminology associated with Type A wastewater treatment plants; conditions and situations encountered in Type A wastewater treatment plants; plant safety and monitoring; and equipment and materials used in Type A wastewater treatment plants. Some questions may involve basic arithmetic calculations.
5. **TOOLS, MECHANICAL APTITUDE, AND READING OF SCALES, METERS, AND GAUGES** - These questions test for knowledge of the tools used in water and wastewater treatment plants; the ability to identify various types of tools and their uses; knowledge of general mechanical principles and the operation of various types of mechanical devices such as gears, pulleys, levers, valves, and similar types of mechanical equipment; and the ability to read and interpret information displayed on various types of scales, meters, and gauges.
6. **OPERATION OF SLUDGE INCINERATORS AND RELATED INCINERATOR PLANT EQUIPMENT** - These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices associated with the operation of sludge incinerators and related equipment, including such areas as the objectives, purposes, and characteristics of various incinerator components and processes; terminology associated with sludge and sludge incineration; incinerator maintenance; procedures, equipment, and materials used in sludge incinerators and the sludge incineration process; and calculations related to sludge incinerator operation.

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES: Unless otherwise noted, candidates are permitted to use quiet, hand held, solar or battery powered calculators. Devices with typewriter keyboards, "Spell Checkers", "Personal Digital Assistants", "Address Books", "Language Translators", "Dictionaries", or any similar devices are prohibited. You may not bring books or other reference materials.

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES WHO ARE ALSO TAKING ANOTHER CIVIL SERVICE EXAM(S) ON THIS DATE (See Below)
(IF YOU ARE TAKING 2 OR MORE ERIE COUNTY EXAMS ON THIS DATE IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO CALL)

INFORMATION FOR PROMOTION CANDIDATES

Unless otherwise indicated, the eligible list resulting from this examination will have a duration of four years and will not supersede existing promotional lists, if any.

RATINGS REQUIRED: Test is rated on a scale of 100 with a passing mark at 70. Test instructions may further divide the tests into parts and set minimum standards for each part.

Points will be added to scores of candidates who achieve a passing mark as follows:

Seniority: For each year of service in the classified service:

Less than 1 year.....	0 points
1 year up to 6 years.....	1 point
Over 6 years up to 11 years.....	2 points
Over 11 years up to 16 years.....	3 points
Over 16 years up to 21 years.....	4 points
Over 21 years.....	5 points

VETERANS: Disabled and non-disabled veterans as defined in Section 85, New York State Civil Service Law, will have 5 and 2.5 points, respectively added to their earned scores if successful in the examination. You must claim these credits when you file application but you have an option to waive them any time prior to appointment. If you have already used these credits for a permanent position in NYS, you may not claim them again.

In conformance with section 85-a of the Civil Service Law, **CHILDREN OF FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY** shall be entitled to receive an additional ten points in a competitive examination for original appointment in the same municipality in which his or her parent has served. If you are qualified to participate in this examination and are a child of a firefighter or police officer killed in the line of duty in this municipality, please inform this office of this matter when you submit your application for examination. A candidate claiming such credit has a minimum of two months from the application deadline to provide the necessary documentation to verify additional credit eligibility. However, no credit may be added after the eligible list has been established.

APPLYING FOR EXAMINATIONS IN MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONS ON SAME DATE. If you have applied for any other Civil Service exams for employment with New York State or any other local government jurisdiction, you must make arrangement to take all the exams at one test site.

If you have applied for both State and Local government exams, you must make arrangements to take all your exams at the State exam center by calling (518)457-7022 no later than two weeks before the test date.

If you have applied for other local government exams, call or write each Civil Service Agency to make arrangements. You must make your request for these arrangements no later than three weeks before the date of the exams. You must notify all local government civil service agencies with whom you have filed an application of the which you wish to take your exam(s). For this exam call (716)858-7509 or write Erie Co. Personnel Dept., 95 Franklin St, Buffalo, NY 14202.

MILITARY STATUS: Active duty military personnel may file an application for this exam. A special military make-up examination will be conducted for any member of the armed forces of the United States who has duly filed a timely application but who was deprived of the opportunity to compete in the scheduled exam due to active military duty. Special conditions apply to these requests and may be reviewed at the Erie County Department of Personnel.

ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION: Notice to appear for the test will be conditional as review of application for minimum requirements may not be made until after the written test. Call or write this Department if you have not received your notice 3 days before the date of the test. You may not be admitted to the examination room without official notice.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Applicants whose religious beliefs prevent their taking examinations before sundown on Saturday and physically handicapped candidates who require special examination facilities should so inform the Erie County Department of Personnel, by a separately mailed letter at the earliest possible date before the test.

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: If a subject of the examination, training and experience may not be rated if all passing candidates are expected to be immediately reachable for appointment. If rated, training and experience will be based on the statements in your application subject to verification. If this examination includes a qualifying written test, candidates admitted to the test will have conditional approval only. Final decision regarding the qualifications of candidates rests with the New York State Department of Civil Service.

ELIGIBILITY FOR EXAMINATION: You may take the examination if you meet the following requirements: (a) Meet the qualifications as printed in the announcement; (b) you have been separated from the service and permanently reemployed within one year, (c) your name is on a preferred eligible list.

NOTICE: Any person, otherwise meeting the requirements for an examination, who is laid off from any agency for which the examination is being held, and whose name is presently on a preferred list is eligible to compete in the examination. When completing their applications such persons should be title and location of their last permanent Civil Service employment.

APPLICATION FORMS: You may obtain these forms in person at the Erie County Personnel Department, Rath County Office Building, 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo. Forms are also available in the libraries and at Town, Village and School District administrative offices.

****IMPORTANT APPLICATION FEE - READ CAREFULLY****

A \$20 filing fee is required for this exam. The required fee must accompany your application. Send or bring check or money order made payable to Erie County Personnel Department and write the examination number(s) on your check or money order. Do not send or bring cash, as the County cannot be responsible for cash payment. As no refund will be made, you are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission and file only for those examinations for which you are clearly qualified.